



ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1965



ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual Report for the year 1965, in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/66 of the Ministry of Health.

Under the West Midlands Counties Order, 1965, minor adjustments in the County boundary affected the Rural District, which resulted in a gain of 257 acres. The figures given in the Report are therefore not strictly comparable with those of the previous year.

During 1965 there were fewer live births in the resident population and there was an increase of population amounting to 110 on comparison with the 1964 figures.

The incidence of acute notifiable disease also was less.

The Report contains no comment to which I wish the attention of the Council to be directed, but gives a summary of the work carried out by the Department during the year.

I take this opportunity to thank Mr. W.H. Austin, Engineer and Manager to the Herefordshire Water Board, for information respecting the public water supplies within the Rural District. Also, I acknowledge assistance given to me in the preparation of this Report and in the discharge of my duties throughout the year by Mr. H.B. Reynolds, Clerk to the Council; Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector; Mr. E.O. Christopher, Rating Officer and Mr. J.W. Roe, Housing Manager.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

*William Hogg*

Medical Officer of Health

26th July, 1966.



MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND PARISHES REPRESENTED

1 9 6 5

Chairman - Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. L. Drayson Russill

Mrs. M.M. Gardner	- Aston Ingham
Mr. L. Drayson Russill	- Ballingham
Mr. J.H. Scudamore, J.P.	- Brampton Abbotts
Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.	- Bridstow
Mr. G.L. Clay, J.P.	- Brockhampton
Brigadier A.F.L. Clive, J.P.	- Foy
Brigadier R.P. Waller	- Ganarew
Mr. E.S. W. Barrell	- Garway
Mr. J.L. Trafford	- Goodrich
Major P. Smith	- Harewood and Llandinabo
Mr. G.B. Preece	- Hentland
Mr. R.E. Jones	- Hope Mansel
Mr. R.N. Lee	- How Caple and Sollershope
Mr. R.J. Jenkins	- Kings Caple
Mr. B.H. Savidge	- Lea
Mr. D.A. Pritchard	- Linton
Mr. J.B. Sainsbury	- Linton
Mr. F.C. Maxfield	- Llangarron
Mr. F.G. Scudamore	- Llangarron
Lt. Cdr. G. Glenton	- Llanrothal
Mr. W.G. Williams	- Llanwarne
Mr. W. Evans	- Marstow
Mr. A.P. Miller	- Pencoyd
Mr. A. Cole	- Peterstow
Mr. H.T. Allen	- Ross Rural
Mr. H.H. Williams	- Ross Rural
Mr. J.H. Davies	- St. Weonards
Mr. E.P.C. Whittall	- Sellack
Mr. M. Howarth	- Tretire with Michaelchurch
Mr. R.H. Marsh	- Upton Bishop
Mr. W.S. Young	- Upton Bishop
Mr. W. Chinn	- Walford
Mrs. A.E. Hill	- Walford
Major J.H. Vaughan	- Welsh Bicknor
Mr. A. Duberley	- Welsh Newton
Mr. D.A. Harper	- Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. C.J.B. Jones	- Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. W.R. Bessex	- Whitchurch
Mr. H.S. Cumbley	- Whitchurch
Mr. R.F. Cotton	- Yatton





ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone:

Chepstow House,

Ross-on-Wye 2214

Ross-on-Wye.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. C.W.J. Manley, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.&Hy., M.A.P.H.I.

Qualified Public Health Inspector (Joint Board)

" Food Inspector (Royal Sanitary Institute)

" Smoke Inspector( " " " )

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. S.J. McKirgan, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 31.5.65)

SAMPLING OFFICER AND CLERK TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

Mr. O.J. Scruby

Telephone:

Woodside,

Ross-on-Wye 2391

Ross-on-Wye.



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SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	=	72,362	⌘
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.65)	=	3,881	⌘
Rateable Value	=	£239,896	⌘
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£890	⌘
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	11,750	⌘
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.18	
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.90	

⌘ An alteration of boundary occurred on 1. 4. 65

Vital StatisticsLive Births

Number of Live Births	=	148
Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population (crude)	=	12.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	4.7

Stillbirths

Number of stillbirths	=	2
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	=	13.3
Total live and still births	=	150
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	=	3

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1000 total live births	=	20.3
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	21.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	=	13.5
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	=	13.5
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	=	26.6

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil
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The Ross and Whitchurch Rural District lies in the south of the County of Hereford, surrounding the Urban District of Ross-on-Wye. The area is entirely rural in character, and the scenery of the Wye Valley attracts visitors.

Limestone quarries are worked at Whitchurch. All types of farming are found within the Rural District.

### Population

On 1st April, a change of boundary under the West Midlands Counties Order 1965 became effective. As a result of this change, the Rural District gained 34 inhabited houses and 257 acres.

The estimated mid-year population is 11,750, an increase of 110 on the estimate for 1964. The average number of persons per inhabited house is 3.0 and the average number of persons per acre is 0.16.

### Births

The number of live births registered as having occurred within the Rural District during the year is 148 (79 males and 69 females) and the crude live birth rate is 12.6 per 1000 of the estimated population. The area comparability factor is 1.18 and applying this to the crude birth rate, the adjusted live birth rate is 14.9 per 1000 estimated population. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year is 18.1 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female live births is 1.14. In 1964 there were 169 live births in the Rural District.

The number of illegitimate live births which occurred is 7 (4 male and 3 female). The illegitimate live births formed 4.7% of the total live births.

### Stillbirths

Two stillbirths occurred, the same number as in the previous year. The stillbirth rate is 13.3 per 1000 total births.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 15.7 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

### Deaths

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred in the Rural District during the year is 117 (62 males and 55 females). In 1964 there were 119 deaths attributed to the Rural District. This total is obtained after deducting the number of deaths of non-residents which occurred within the Rural District and adding the number of deaths of residents which took place in other areas. The ratio of male/female deaths is 1.1.

The crude death rate for the District for the year is 10.0 per 1000 estimated population, and applying the area comparability factor of 0.90 the corrected death rate is 9.0 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 11.5 per 1000 population.



Table of Deaths according to Sex, and Cause

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
2	Tuberculosis, other.	-	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	3	1	4
11	" " lung, bronchus.	1	-	1
12	" " breast.	-	3	3
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	5	7	12
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	1	2
16	Diabetes.	1	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	10	7	17
18	Coronary disease, angina.	15	9	24
20	Other heart disease.	4	9	13
21	Other circulatory disease.	3	5	8
23	Pneumonia.	2	1	3
24	Bronchitis.	5	-	5
25	Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and Duodenum.	1	-	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-	1
31	Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	6	7	13
33	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	-	1
34	All other accidents	-	2	2
All Causes		62	55	117

Analysis of death by cause shows the most frequent cause is heart disease (headings 18 and 20), accounting for 37 deaths. The corrected death rate from all forms of heart disease is 2.8 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year heart disease accounted for 42 deaths.

#### Vascular Lesions of Nervous System

Deaths from strokes amounted to 17, which is 3 less than in the previous year.

#### Cancer Deaths

In 1965 there were 20 deaths attributed to all types of cancer (9 males and 11 females), three more than in the previous year. The corrected death rate for cancer of all sites is 1.5 per 1000 estimated population.

The cancer (all forms) death rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 2.2 per 1000 population.

#### Infant Mortality

The number of babies under one year of age who died during the year was 3 (males), two more than in the previous year. The local infant mortality rate for 1965 is 20.3 per 1000 live births and this rate for England and Wales is 19.0 per 1000 live births. Two infant deaths occurred within the first week of life.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Three deaths were attributed to pneumonia - the only acute notifiable disease which caused death. The corrected death rate for the Rural District for 1965 from acute pneumonia is 0.23 per 1,000 estimated population. In the previous year 2 deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

Tuberculosis Deaths

One death was attributed to non-respiratory tuberculosis. The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate for England and Wales is 0.048 per 1,000 population for 1965.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREAPublic Health Laboratory

The facilities available to the District at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, remain unchanged.

The following table gives the number of investigations made on behalf of the Department during the year:-

Faeces	=	8
Water (bacteriological)	=	594
Milk (methylene blue test)	=	77
Milk (phosphatase test)	=	74
Ice Cream	=	87
Other	=	3

Five samples of sewage effluent and two samples of water were submitted to the Worcestershire County Analyst for chemical examination.

Public Mortuary

The Council has facilities for the reception of bodies from the Rural District at the Public Mortuary, Ross-on-Wye.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District, which is served by hospitals at Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth.

Ambulances

Ambulances are provided in the adjacent towns of Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth, for the use of persons residing within the Rural District.

Disposal of the Dead - National Assistance Act 1948. Section 50

No burials were carried out under this section by the Council during the year.



Care of the Aged and Infirm - National Assistance Act, 1948  
Section 47

No investigations were made under this section during the year.

Residential Accommodation for the Aged

Residential accommodation for active aged persons is provided at the Chestnuts, Ross-on-Wye. This Home is provided and managed by the Herefordshire County Council, and can accommodate 42 persons.

The Rural District Council has provided at Fowbridge Gardens, Walford, an estate of 17 bungalows for aged persons, with a Warden's flat, and a similar estate at Weston-under-Penyard with 27 bungalows.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The District is formed of Old Red Sandstone Rocks of the Devonian System, with an outcrop of limestone along the south-eastern boundary from Upton Bishop to Gorsley and Aston Ingham. In the parishes of Walford and Whitchurch, along the southern boundary of the District there is an outcrop of carboniferous limestone.

The Old Red Sandstone is represented chiefly by red and green sandstones and marl with outcrops of Old Red Conglomerate.

Water

All public water supplies in the Rural District, with the exception of a few public wells and springs, are provided by the Herefordshire Water Board. The Board obtains water for the supplies chiefly from the Castlebrook and Alton Court Pumping Stations (bore holes in Old Red Sandstone), and the St. Weonards and Llanwarne Scheme (springs).

At the end of December, 1964, the yield from the Castlebrook boreholes was so reduced that it was necessary for the Water Board to provide temporary augmentation of the Castlebrook supply. This was first done by pumping water from the Alton Court Supply via a temporary main and afterwards by pumping from the Castle Brook, through two stage activated carbon filters. With these temporary arrangements it was necessary to increase the chlorination of the supply as the flow in the Castle Brook was variable in amount and quality.

The Rural District Council co-operated with the Water Board by increasing the number and frequency of samples from the distribution system. During the year 534 samples of water from the Board's supply were sent for bacteriological examination. Of these 484 were found to be sterile on examination, and 43 showed a small insignificant count, only 7 were found not to be of good potable quality. Considering all the difficulties, I think this is a satisfactory achievement when it is remembered that a full supply was maintained throughout the year.

The yield from the Castlebrook boreholes recovered sufficiently during the year to cease pumping from the brook.



Notwithstanding the difficulties of maintaining supply, the Board completed the following mains extensions in the Rural District:-

60 yards	3 inch	diameter	main	-	Bromsash
187 "	3 "	"	"	-	Hildersley
150 "	3 "	"	"	-	Upton Bishop
20 "	3"	"	"	-	Bill Mills
250 "	3"	"	"	-	Llancloudy
187 "	3"	"	"	-	Llanwarne
1620 "	6"	"	"	-	Lyston Court/Llanwarne
1000 "	3"	"	"	-	Llandinabo
93 "	3"	"	"	-	Lower Greytree
240 "	3"	"	"	-	Greytree

There are 7 standpipes on the public water mains still in use.

In 1965, there was no significant shortage of water in the Rural District.

### Drainage and Sewerage

There are short lengths of public sewer within the parishes of Lea, Walford, Upton Bishop, Goodrich and Ross Rural. No extensions of public sewers were carried out during the year.

During the year the Wilton sewerage scheme was completed and brought into operation. This small scheme provides adequate drainage for the Wilton area of Bridstow parish, and satisfied an urgent requirement in that neighbourhood.

Four samples of effluent from the Hildersley Sewage Disposal plant were sent for chemical analysis; all of these failed to comply with the Royal Commission standards. A scheme to drain this area into the Ross U.D.C. sewers is in preparation.

During the year the Public Health Inspector made 25 drain tests and 264 drain tests were made by the Surveyor. One hundred and twenty three new drains were provided in connection with dwelling houses and 10 for other premises. Eight existing drains, found to be defective, were reconstructed or repaired. The number of inspections made in connection with drainage were 113.

The Council does not undertake the emptying or cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks other than those on the Council's property, which are cleansed by specialist contractors.

### Rivers and Streams

The quality of the effluents from a number of small sewage disposal plants discharging into the River Wye came under review in the course of the year.

### Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that about 36% of the inhabitants are still obliged to rely upon pail closets and about 56% have the use of water closets. The remaining 8% have to use privies. The reason for the continued use of conservancy systems is chiefly lack of piped water supplies, but the position improves each year.

During the year 54 pail closets and 24 privies were converted to water closets. Apart from conversions, 43 new water closets were provided during the year.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of privies and pail closets.

No public conveniences are provided by the Council but the need for these exists in the Symonds Yat area. This area has a large influx of day visitors during the holiday season.

Public Cleansing

The Council carried out the collection of domestic refuse from all accessible properties throughout the year. About 80% of dwellings are included in the collection, which is carried out by two motor refuse vehicles with covers and tipping gear. A fortnightly collection is provided.

The Council does not undertake the collection of trade refuse.

Disposal of the refuse is by tipping, the tips being situated at Whitchurch, Garway, How Caple, Weston-under-Penyard and Gorsley.

The Council has no responsibility for street cleansing, this being a duty of the Highway Authority - the Herefordshire County Council.

There are no public baths or wash-houses in the Rural District.

Swimming Baths and Pools

From April to September one privately owned swimming pool was open to the public on payment. It is provided with a purification plant and was maintained in a satisfactory condition. The pump circulates 7,000 gallons per hour and is pumping from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. alternating with 24 hour pumping. Five thousand gallons of pool water are extracted each day and replaced by fresh water.

On 22 occasions samples of pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all samples were satisfactory.

Shops and Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The number of shops and offices within the District is very small. The number of visits made during the year to shops was 20.

Registrations

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>No. registered at end of year</u>	<u>No. inspected during year</u>
Offices	2	2
Retail Shops	5	5
Wholesale shops ) Warehouses )	-	-
Catering Establishments ) open to the public ) Canteens )	4	4
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-

Persons employed in Registered Premises

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Number employed</u>
Offices	5
Retail Shops	14
Wholesale Shops ) Warehouses )	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public	22
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil



Camping Sites - Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269(1)  
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Section 3

There were 28 sites used for camping purposes in the Rural District during the year and of these 11 were licensed under Section 3 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. It is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time was 400.

The number of inspections of camping sites carried out during the year was 11, and 99 caravan inspections were made. When sites are inspected attention is given to water supply, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal and spacing.

Eradication of Bed Bugs  
Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) Regs. 1951

No dwellings were found to be infested with bed bugs, and no disinfestations were required for this purpose. When need for disinfestation arises this is usually carried out by specialist contractors using hydrogen Cyanide.

No notices under the Regulations were received in respect of disinfestations with hydrogen cyanide.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the District.

Diseases of Animals Acts - Anthrax Order 1938

One notification of suspected anthrax in animals was received during the year.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector for the following statement for the year 1965, furnished in accordance with Article 25(2) Public Health Officers' Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Accumulations	=	3
Agriculture (S.H. & W. Prov.) Act	=	2
Animals	=	5
Bakehouses	=	6
Camping Sites	=	11
Caravans	=	99
Control of Pests	=	14
Dairies	=	10
Drainage	=	113
Drain Tests	=	25
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	102
Food Handling Byelaws	=	18
Food Premises	=	30
Housing	=	299
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	=	5
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	101
Infectious Disease	=	8
Licensed Victuallers' Premises	=	6
Nuisances	=	29
Offensive Smells	=	7
Overcrowding	=	7
Petroleum Stores	=	33

Inspections (continued)

Refuse Tips	=	32
Schools	=	2
Sewage Disposal Works	=	19
Sewers	=	17
Shops	=	20
Sanitary Conveniences	=	1
Stalls	=	7
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	16
Unsound Food	=	4
Water Supply	=	790
Work Places	=	5
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	=	17

Notices Issued

Informal	=	30
Statutory re Housing		Nil
Statutory under other Acts		Nil

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	=	20
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	171
Ditches cleared	=	2
Domestic Baths provided	=	75
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	12
Drains reconstructed	=	2
New drains provided	=	90
Defective floors repaired	=	21
Defective roofs repaired	=	50
Defective brickwork repaired	=	43
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	32
Defective Coppers remedied	=	2
Defective windows repaired	=	35
Defective chimneys repaired	=	15
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	46
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	10
Closets repaired or renewed	=	6
New Gullies provided	=	11
Gully covers provided	=	4
Inspection chambers repaired	=	4
Old drains sealed	=	4
Paving repaired	=	22
Privies converted to water closets	=	34
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	24
Staircases repaired	=	15
New sinks provided	=	35
Soil pipes repaired	=	2
Sanitary fittings provided	=	80
Stoves repaired	=	4
Moveable dwellings removed	=	28
Ventilation improved	=	22
Wells cleansed or repaired	=	6
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	44



Agriculture, Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions Act, 1956  
Sections 3 and 6

The number of inspections made during 1965 under Section 3 of this Act, of farms and agricultural holdings within the District was two, covering two premises. Both of these premises complied with the Act.

Factories Act, 1961

The number of factories registered with the Council at the end of the year was 35; all were factories with mechanical power. One new registration was made during 1965 and two registrations were deleted. In addition 59 work places were registered.

Ten defects under the Act were found and remedied before the end of the year.

There are now no outworkers registered with the Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1965 for the Rural District of Ross and Whitchurch in the County of Hereford.

PART I OF ACT

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	45	2	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises ..	59	64	2	Nil
Total	94	109	4	Nil



## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred</u>		
			To H.M. <u>Inspector</u>	By H.M. <u>Inspector</u>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Total	10	10	1	Nil	Nil

Petroleum Regulations

No new licences were granted for the storage of petroleum spirit. One installation for storage was discontinued during the year. At the end of the year there were 83 storage installations on the Council's register.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

This Act is administered on behalf of the constituent Councils by a Joint Committee formed by the three adjoining Rural Districts of Hereford, Ledbury and Ross and Whitchurch. The Joint Committee enters into contracts with occupiers for keeping premises free from rodents.

The following table shows the work carried out in the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District during 1965. The number of inspections made during the year was 271.

	Premises inspected	Total Infestations	<u>Rats</u>		Mice	No. of properties treated	Statutory Notices
			Major	Minor			
Local Authorities' Properties	5	18	8	10	-	18	-
Dwelling Houses	80	65	-	60	5	65	-
Agricultural Properties	55	55	5	50	-	600	-
All other (including business) premises	12	9	-	9	-	9	-
Total	152	147	13	129	5	692	-

SECTION D - HOUSING

During 1965 no Council houses were completed but 16 dwellings were under construction at Weston-under-Penyard.

Four Council houses were sold during 1965, so that the total number of Council houses sold up to the end of the year was 22. The number of dwellings owned by the Council at December, 1965, was 373 (9.6% of the occupied houses in the District).

The number of new dwellings completed during the year by private enterprise was 43, distributed in the following parishes:-

Aston Ingham	=	2	Llanwarne	=	4
Ballingham	=	1	Peterstow	=	1
Bridstow	=	2	Ross Rural	=	7
Goodrich	=	2	St. Weonards	=	4
Hentland	=	1	Upton Bishop	=	1
Kings Caple	=	1	Walford	=	2
Linton	=	7	Weston-under-Penyard	=	4
Llangarron	=	1	Whitchurch	=	1
Llandinabo	=	1	Yatton	=	1

A further 43 houses being erected by private enterprise were incomplete at the end of the year.

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV - Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year 4 dwellings were known to be overcrowded within the meaning of the Act. During 1965, no new cases of overcrowding occurred, and it was possible to secure abatement of 2 cases, involving 16 persons. Two dwellings were overcrowded at the end of the year. In no instance did a recurrence of overcrowding take place after action for abatement.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	=	299
2. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	=	30
3. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	=	22

Unfit Houses Closed during the Year  
Housing Act 1957

Unfit Houses closed under Sections 16(4), 26, 17(1), 35(1) Housing Act 1957	=	19
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Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
After informal action by Local Authority	167	-
After formal notice under Sections 9 & 16 Housing Act 1957	2	-



Proceedings under Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958  
(Part 2) Section 30

Grants made by the Local Authority for  
improvement of dwellings = 33

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 (Part 2) Section 4

This section provides assistance in the provision of standard amenities in dwellings - that is a fixed bath or shower, a washbasin, a hot water supply, a water closet, and facilities for storing food. Fortyone standard grants were made by the Council during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Part 2. Section 43  
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Section 3

The Council made no advances during 1965 to assist persons in house purchase, under these Acts.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Rural District is a specified area and only designated milk, that is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk may be sold retail within the District.

The number of milk distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year was 11. The number of dairy inspections made was 10.

One sample of tuberculin tested milk was sent for examination at the Public Health Laboratory and found to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960.

Seventyfour samples of pasteurised milk were sent for examination and thirteen of these failed to comply with the Regulations.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

There are four bakeries, three premises for manufacture of meat products and one factory for the manufacture of soft drinks registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

No formal action was necessary as a result of inspection of these premises, but informal action secured the cleansing of walls and ceilings, and renewal of a sink.

Water Cress

This food grows under natural conditions in a number of places in the District. There are no commercial beds within the area, and the sale of water cress is small.

No illness was attributed to the consumption of infected water cress.

Shell Fish

The sale of shell fish appears to be small, and no case of illness was attributed to this food. There are no fishmongers in the Rural District and supplies are obtained from adjacent towns.



Ice Cream

There are no premises registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of ice cream. Fortysix premises were registered for the storage and sale of this food.

The number of inspections made of registered premises was 101. Conditions of storage and sale were satisfactory.

Eightyseven samples of this food were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination during the year, and 84 of these were classified as provisional grade 1 and 3 samples were provisional grade 2.

Meat

There are no slaughterhouses in use within the area. All meat is obtained by traders from abattoirs in other Districts.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

During the year the Council issued 9 licences to slaughtermen under the above mentioned section. One of these permitted the slaughter of horses in addition to other animals. Four licences permitted the slaughter of swine only and one licence permitted the holder to slaughter swine and sheep.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

All premises to which these Regulations apply were inspected; the number of inspections made was 30. No formal action was necessary under these Regulations.

One new lock-up shop was opened and a food shop modernised during the year. A kitchen in a village hall was reconstructed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 15Byelaws as to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in Open Air

There are no markets held within the Rural District, and sale of food from stalls is limited. The sale of food from vehicles does take place, and since the adoption of the byelaws attention has been given to vendors' vehicles. During the year 18 inspections were made under these byelaws

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 26 - Food Poisoning

No notifications of food poisoning were received during the year.

Unsound Food

The following list gives particulars of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness</u>
3 tins (22 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.)	Pork	Blown Tins.
24	Eclairs	Decomposition.
11	Ice Cream Bricks	Decomposition
1 tin (7 ozs.)	Corned Beef	Decomposition
1 tin (10 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.)	Cooked Ham	Decomposition

Food found to be unfit for human consumption is rendered unsaleable and buried on the refuse tips under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

#### SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable disease in 1965 was very low and less than in the previous year, as only 81 notifications were received. The number in 1964 was 170. The 1965 notification rate was 6.9 per 1000 estimated population. This decrease was caused by the lower incidence of measles during 1965. Throughout the year the Rural District was free from diphtheria, poliomyelitis, enteric fevers and scarlet fever.

#### Confirmed Cases of Acute Infectious Disease in each Quarter in 1965

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	4
Measles	5	6	7	58	76
All Diseases	6	7	8	60	81

#### Measles

This was the most prevalent infection in the District during 1965; the period of maximum incidence being the fourth quarter, when 58 notifications were received. The number of cases notified during the year was 76, giving a measles notification rate for the Rural District of 6.5 per 1000 estimated population.

All the patients except one, were children under 10 years of age; 44 were over 5 years and under 10 years of age. Forty-eight households were involved; 27 experienced one case each and 16 experienced 2 cases each. A clear history of contact with a previous case was obtained in 18 cases. Most cases occurred in the parishes of Walford (33), Weston (15) and Linton (10).

#### Analysis of notified cases according to certain Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Total
Measles	1	3	11	9	7	44	1	-	-	-	-	76
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	4
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
All Diseases	1	4	11	9	8	44	2	-	2	-	-	81



Whooping Cough

Only 4 cases of whooping cough were notified - one case in each quarter of the year - giving a whooping cough notification rate for the Rural District of 0.3 per 1000 estimated population.

Pneumonia

No cases of pneumonia were notified compared with 3 in 1964, but three deaths were attributed to the disease.

Other Infective Disease

Mumps appeared in the month of March and continued to occur until the end of June. The number of cases known was 25, confined to the south part of the Rural District.

In the first half of the year chicken pox was encountered.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 85 cases of tuberculosis on the Register, 64 being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 8 cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were added. Four of these cases were not new infections.

Four cases of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were taken off the register during the year.

At the end of the year 89 cases (68 respiratory and 21 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

One death was attributed to non-respiratory disease.

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